The list of Indian languages along with the degree of endangerment; estimated number of speakers; accuracy of estimate; and sources of data are available in the UNESCO Interactive Atlas of the World's Languages in Danger (2009), an online database of the Intangible Cultural Heritage Section of UNESCO (available at http://www.unesco.org/culture/en/endangeredlanguages/atlas). The said data base is a 'living' database being corrected constantly, due to user feedback, and after the screening of specialists of UNESCO.

While the total of the estimated number of speakers of the 196 languages listed in the Atlas amounts to approximately 2.7 crore, it would be perhaps premature to assert at this stage that *'more than 2.5 crore of Indians stand to lose their linguistic heritage,...* 'as not all the 196 languages have reached the stage of 'severely endangered' or 'critically endangered'.

(b) This Ministry is reviewing the progress made in the Preservation and Development of Minor Indian Languages which are not covered under the VIII Schedule of the Constitution of India with States/UTs. It was noticed that States/UTs have taken concrete action to develop these minor languages.

Establishment of IT in Kerala

347. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any criteria for selecting States for establishing Indian Institute of Technology (IIT);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons for not establishing IIT in Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Based on the recommendations of the Scientific Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (SAC-PM), the Government decided to establish three new Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) in Bihar in the East, Rajasthan in the West and Andhra Pradesh in the South. The Government subsequently decided to establish five more IITs in Gujarat, Orissa, Punjab, Madhya Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh keeping in view the regional imbalance.

(c) At present there is no proposal to establish an IIT in Kerala, which already has an Indian Institute of Management (IIM) and a National Institute of Technology (NIT) at Kozhikode and an Indian Institute of Science Education & Research (IISER) at Thiruvananthapuram.

Academic standards in Deemed Universities

348. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a policy of Government to monitor the academic standards in Deemed Universities after getting the recognition;